

## ON TRIAL FOR HERESY

**DR. BRIGGS CALLED TO THE BAR**

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**DR. J. J. LAMPE'S ABLE ARGUMENT FOR THE**

PROSECUTION.

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THE DEFENDANT MAKES A STRONG PLEA

Washington, May 29.—At last the trial of Professor Briggs upon the charge of heresy for holding doctrines not in harmony with the Bible and the Standards of the Presbyterian Church has been started in the supreme court of the Church, and a verdict will doubtless be reached on Wednesday. It will then be known whether

The scene in the New-York Avenue Presbyterian Church to-day has been dimmed in the extreme. The clouds and the rain did not decrease the attendance, and at an early hour not a seat was vacant. The commissioners, bent on their responsible duty, were in their seats during the devotional half hour preceding the actual

A sense of solemnity falls upon the 600 commissioners and as many spectators as Dr. Craig says slowly and with emphasis:

THE GREAT TRIAL ON.

"I, as Moderator, do solemnly announce that this Assembly is about to pass to the consideration of business assigned for trial, and I do enjoin upon the members to regard their high character as judges of the Court of Jesus Christ and the solemn duty in which they are about to engage. We are now sitting in our judicial capacity."

The floor was then given to Dr. Baker, of the Judicial Committee, who rises to announce this question of time to be consumed by the several parties interested. Four hours and a half were given to the appellants, seven hours to the appellee, two to the commissioners from the Presbytery of New-York, and two to the members of the General Assembly. Another important statement by the Judicial Committee was to the effect that while the appellants would have the right to close

THE DEFENDANT AND HIS COLLEAGUE.

As his able colleague, his associate in the preparation of the great Hebrew lexicon, now being published, his friend and ally in the trial about to begin. Between Dr. Birch and Dr. Brown the piles of books covering the record of the case in the Presbytery, and writings which the professors have prepared for the defence of the defendant.

**THE LEADER OF THE PROSECUTION.**

Across the aisle at the table of the prosecution sat Dr. Birch, the chairman of the committee that began the proceedings which have led to the trial. No other man is more loyal to the Presbyterian Church than Dr. Birch, and it was because he thought that the honor of the Church

had been assailed in the inaugural address that he called for a committee of inquiry a few weeks after its delivery. As he made the motion, the Moderator of the Presbytery appointed him chairman of the committee. As his report was ac-

"Mr. Moderator, Colonel McCook will present the preliminary statement and the evidence which

Colonel McCook's statement consisted mainly in giving the references to the evidence which the prosecution proposed to use. In doing so he referred to a pamphlet which he called the printed record. It contained the appeal and the minutes of the Presbytery, but Dr. Briggs objected to its being called a printed record, as it was not in any sense a part of the record of the case. With a view to the defendant Colonel McCook replied:

"The doctor can attach any name to it he desires. It is for identification and information.

Dr. Briggs—The printed document.

Colonel McCook—If I should happen to use the words printed record in the future, please con-

sider that I have used the words "printed document."

Colonel McCook closed his statements with the remark that Dr. Lampe would present the argu-

ments for appellants.

"The theologian," as Dr. Lampe has been aptly

called, then arose and took the place vacated by the lawyer. Dr. Lampe has not delved so deeply

into the mycorrhizae of the higher crinoids, as the